

Town of Wethersfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of the April 9, 2014 Meeting
Page 1 of 1

Chairman Rick Baldoni called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM in the Town Hall Conference Room, which was attended by Commissioners Rick Doran, Bill Knapp, Linda Neilson, Robert Pulford, and Rebecca Zalznock. Also in attendance was Kathy Bagley, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for March 12, 2014 were reviewed and on a Motion by R. Doran, Seconded by B. Pulford, and approved unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Chairman Baldoni provided the results of the Commission's open space inventory to K. Bagley, who will meet with the Engineering Department to process the Open Space Inventory into the Town's GIS database.
- b. R. Doran provided information on the research he and K. Bagley conducted regarding the criteria for participation in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service farmland preservation program. Still in the information gathering stage, Mr. Doran recommended the preparation of a Mission Statement to eventually submit to the Town Council describing the reasons for participation that would include (1) to comply with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, as noted on page 82 of the 2013 PC&D; (2) to stabilize costs / spending; and (3) to seek eligibility for grants and funding. Mr. Doran will continue research in the definition of farmland, PA490 eligibility, and the Town's agricultural zones.
- c. The Commission discussed the concept of re-establishing a voter-approved Land Acquisition Fund in time for the November 2014 election.
- d. R. Zalznock passed around examples of bike trail names used throughout Connecticut for the Commission to consider for changing the name of the "Heritage Way Trail". The change was suggested by K. Bagley at the previous Commission meeting since a "Heritage Trail" self-guided walking tour is currently in the planning stage for Old Wethersfield, and the two names conflict. The Commission will consider renaming the multi-use recreational trail by the next meeting, and K. Bagley will determine if the Town has any specific requirements or procedures for changing the trail name.

Chairman Baldoni adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM, so moved by B. Knapp and seconded by R. Pulford.

Respectfully submitted by

Rebecca M. Zalznock